

By the Kansas State Historical Society

All Eyes Were on Kansas Territory

The struggle over slavery in Kansas Territory was national news. Both the North and the South closely watched events in the territory. The issue of slavery was threatening to tear the nation apart. So important was the struggle in Kansas that it was reflected in popular magazines, poetry, and music. It also changed national politics. Shortly after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Republican Party was formed to stop the spread of slavery. During the territorial period all eyes were on Kansas. Both the North and the South wanted Kansas to join their side on the issue of slavery.

